



## City Paragraphs.



Quite a large crowd attended the Bannekers' Ball, but not near so large as was present last year.

Miss Ada Edmunds of Ninth street extended expects to leave shortly on a visit to Philadelphia.

Mr. Walter Cohen, the brave Republican leader of Louisiana, is in the city, the guest of Governor Pinchback.

Misses Lula Love, Imogene Wormley and a number of other lady teachers were in Philadelphia last week.

Mr. Emmett J. Scott, private secretary to Dr. Booker T. Washington, was in the city a few hours last Monday on business.

Mrs. Belle Jackson, of F street northwest, after undergoing a serious operation at the Columbian University Hospital, has entirely recovered her former good health.

A blue enamelled, heart shaped, diamond studded stick pin was lost by a young lady at the Bannekers' Ball. Reward if returned to this office.

Mr. Clarence C. White, the violin virtuoso, has issued a unique postal announcing the opening of his studio, at the Washington Conservatory of Music.

Mr. Lewis Jefferson, manager of the Jane Mosely, is getting that palatial steamer in shape for excursion work on the Potomac river this season.

Dr. and Mrs. Booker T. Washington, accompanied by Secretary Stokes, spent last Monday in the city, the guests of friends. They were en route for Tuskegee from the east.

Prof. John T. Layton is receiving congratulations on all sides for the wonderfully fine showing his excellently trained chorus in "Hiawatha," made last Tuesday night.

Mr. W. C. Brown, who has charge of the post-office and roads quarters in the Capitol, accompanied by his wife will leave for his Indiana home about the first of May.

The Metropolitan Baptist Church on R street, is still the storm center of law suits and litigation. Unless these law suits cease, the church will be lost to its congregation and friends.

Butler's Park, near Oxen Hill, Md., is the newest summer resort open to the colored people. Mr. D.

J. Butler, owner of the park, is arranging a bus line to meet the cars at the Washington Asylum.

Mrs. M. O. Hoffler, of 2125 Twelfth street, entertained a large crowd of her friends at a birthday party Saturday evening, the 16th inst. Dancing, card-playing, etc., filled in a most enjoyable evening, and refreshments of all kinds were very much in evidence.

Mrs. Julia Hughes Coleman, Phar. D., formerly of Philadelphia, is visiting here. She recently passed the Virginia State Examining Board, for the last six months has had charge of the Ideal Pharmacy in Norfolk, Va., and is now planning to open a drugstore of her own in Newport News.

The Harriman, (Tenn.), Normal and Industrial Institute will hold its commencement exercises May 20, and an effort is being made by the principal and faculty to make this the greatest commencement year in the history of the school. Mrs. Booker T. Washington will deliver the annual address, and many other noted speakers will take part.

The "ad" of Mr. Kent, the well known and skilled tailor, appeared all tangled up in our last issue but will be properly set when it next appears. He is known as one of the finest builders of custom-made suits from \$15 up in this city, and one is sure of satisfaction when dealing with such an artist as he is in his line. His rooms are at 922 Eighteenth street northwest.

At the concert given by St. Luke's Church last Friday night, Mrs. Skeene Mitchell gave a beautiful rendition of "A Spring Song." Misses James and Murray, Messrs. Godman and Carter, and the Mandolin Club rendered choice selections, and Miss Julia Brooks gave several recitations. Much of the evening's success was due to Miss Nancy Moten, who is an artistic accompanist.

Mrs. Nancy J. Johnson announces the marriage of her niece, Nannie Beatrice Johnson to Mr. Jas. E. Ferguson, Wednesday April 27, at eight o'clock, at 1423 P street northwest. The reception, which was to take place after the ceremony has been postponed on account of the illness of Mr. J. T. Johnson, a relative of the bride-to-be. The couple will be at home to friends Sunday May 1, from 2 to 6 o'clock, at 3239 Dumbarton avenue, Georgetown, D. C.

## The Grand Fountain of the United Order of True Reformers

Is the leading Colored Fraternal Society of the United States. It was organized January, 1881, by William W. Browne, and chartered in April, 1883, under the laws of the State of Virginia, with headquarters at Richmond, Va. Its membership is both male and female, and consists of all persons of good health from 14 to 60 years of age. Its membership of 60,000 is divided into Fountains and Circles. It pays sick benefits from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per week, and pays death benefits from \$24.56 to \$1000.

**BENEFITS PAID**—Total benefits paid to date: Sick dues, \$r,500,000; death benefits, \$714,378.75.

**SENIOR FOUNTAINS**—A Fountain may be organized consisting of 20 or more persons not over 50 years of age paying a joining fee of from \$4.60 to \$5.10 each. The monthly dues are not less than 35 cents in rural districts and not less than 50 cents per month in towns and cities, and a semi-annual tax of 40 cents paid in January and July of each year. Sick benefits paid are from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per week, while death benefits range from \$75 to \$125. A Fountain may be organized in any locality on application to Rev. W. L. Taylor, G. W. Master, or to any of his authorized deputies.

**ROSEBUDS**—For the proper training of the young and their development in thrift, industry and brotherly love, there has been formed a Children's Department known as the Rosebuds. Twenty or more children not less than three nor more than fourteen years of age may form a Rosebud, upon the payment of \$1 each. This department, like the Senior Fountain, pays sick benefits from \$1 to twenty-five cents per week, and death benefits from \$24.50 to \$37. The monthly dues are fifteen cents per month.

**CLASSES**—Persons desiring to leave their beneficiaries at death a larger amount than is paid from Fountain Department, take out policies in one or more of the Classes of the Mutual Benefit Degree. The members of this degree are divided into Circles, and pay joining fees and dues according to the following tables:

Class "B"						Class "E"					
Age	Joining fee.	Value of Certificate after one year.	Value of Certificate before one year.	Annual Dues	Quarterly Dues	Age	Joining fee.	Value of Certificate after one year.	Value of Certificate before one year.	Annual Dues	Quarterly Dues
Age 14 to 25	\$2.50	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$4.75	\$1.20	Age 14 to 25	\$5.00	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$9.50	\$2.34
" 25 to 30	2.75	250.00	100.00	4.75	1.20	" 25 to 30	5.25	500.00	250.00	9.50	2.34
" 30 to 35	3.00	300.00	100.00	4.75	1.20	" 30 to 35	5.50	500.00	250.00	9.50	2.34
" 35 to 40	3.25	350.00	100.00	4.75	1.20	" 35 to 40	5.75	500.00	250.00	9.50	2.34
" 40 to 45	3.50	400.00	100.00	4.75	1.20	" 40 to 45	6.00	500.00	250.00	9.50	2.34
" 45 to 50	3.75	450.00	100.00	4.75	1.20	" 45 to 50	6.25	500.00	250.00	9.50	2.34
" 50 to 55	4.00	500.00	100.00	4.75	1.20	" 50 to 55	6.50	500.00	250.00	9.50	2.34
" 55 to 60	4.25	550.00	100.00	4.75	1.20	" 55 to 60	6.75	500.00	250.00	9.50	2.34

Class "M"				
Age	Joining fee.	Value of Certificate	Annual dues	Quarterly dues
Age 14 to 20	\$11.00	\$1000.00	\$21.90	\$5.25
" 20 to 25	12.00	1000.00	22.00	5.50
" 25 to 30	12.00	905.00	23.00	5.75
" 30 to 35	13.00	800.00	24.00	6.00
" 35 to 40	13.00	700.00	25.00	6.25

**REGALIA**—The members of the Fountains and Rosebuds of the organization wear no expensive regalia. The regalia of the organization is simple and its cost will be in the easy reach of all, costing from 10 cents to \$3. The same is made by the organization in what is known as the Regalia Department.

**THE SAVINGS BANK**—In March, 1888, there was granted by the Legislature of Virginia a charter to the Savings Bank

of the Grand Fountain United Order of True Reformers, capital stock \$100,000. The bank commenced business April 3, 1889, and from that time down to the present has steadily increased in volume of business. It now has a paid up capital stock of \$100,000. From the humble sum of \$1,268.69, deposited the first day the bank opened for business in 1889 the deposits have grown to \$350,058, and the volume of business transacted amounts to \$6,190,141.47. During the financial panic of 1893, the Savings Bank of the Grand Fountain was the only bank in the city of Richmond that did not cease to pay cash on all checks presented, while the majority of other banks were using script and clearing house checks. This bank had its origin in the brain of William W. Browne, an ex-slave of Habersham, Ga. The banking house is located at 604 North Second Street, Richmond, Va., Rev. W. L. Taylor, President; R. T. Hill, Cashier.

**REAL ESTATE DEPARTMENT**—The Real Estate Department has charge of all the real property to the amount of \$220,221.65, situated in various States, consisting of 13 magnificent buildings used as halls, 8 dwellings, 1 hotel, 5 stores and three farms. It also has under its control 16 large buildings leased by it. This department is under the management of Lawyer J. C. Robertson, chief of real estate and attorney for the association, office at 608 N. 2nd Street, Richmond, Va.

**REFORMERS MERCANTILE AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION**—Was chartered under the laws of the State of Virginia on the 14th day of December, 1899, with principal office in the city of Richmond, Va. The purpose of this association is to conduct stores (wholesale and retail), buy and sell real property, manage and control hotels, manufacturing establishments, and do general business. The association has in operation Hotel Reformer, 900 N. Sixth Street, Richmond, Va. It is a modern up-to-date structure, heated by steam, cold and hot water baths, also electric cars passing the door. This hotel has accommodations for 150 guests. Mr. A. W. Holmes is manager, and Mr. T. W. Taylor is clerk. It has in operation a system of five stores, located as follows: Richmond, Va.; Washington, D. C.; Manchester, Va.; Portsmouth, Va.; and Roanoke, Va. The first of these stores, at Richmond, Va., was opened April 3d, 1900. It employs a force of 18 men, runs three delivery wagons, and during the first year did \$50,000 worth of business. The other stores have been established since, and have been equally as prosperous. The general manager of the system of stores is Mr. B. L. Jordan, headquarters at 608 N. Second Street, Richmond, Va. This Association was formed on the plans and recommendations made by Rev. W. L. Taylor, its President.

**THE REFORMER PRINTING DEPARTMENT**—Issues a weekly journal, THE REFORMER, which has a circulation of 12,000. This paper is published in the interest of the race, and discusses the leading questions of the day. The subscription price is \$1 per year, or 5c per single copy. The office is equipped with modern up-to-date machinery, run by electricity. It can print anything from a visiting card to a poster 42 by 62 inches. Fine job work of every class and description is made a specialty at lowest prices. Mr. E. W. Brown is editor and business manager, office 608 N. Second Street, Richmond, Va. Correspondence solicited and agents wanted.

**OLD FOLKS' HOME**—In September, 1893, Rev. William W. Brown recommended the formation and establishment of Old Folks' Homes for the benefit of old and decrepit members of the race. Since that time the valuable farm known as Westham, consisting of 634 1/4 acres, located six miles from Richmond, Va., on the historic "James," has been purchased, at a cost of \$14,400. The Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad runs through the farm, and Westham Station is located on it. Adjoining this farm is Westhampton Park, one of the most pleasant resorts in the South in summer. It is reached in a few minutes from Richmond by the Westhampton Electric Railway and the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway. As this home is for the benefit of the whole race, the co-operation of all charitable friends is prayerfully solicited. All contributions, donations and requests of every character will be very thankfully received. Mr. T. W. Taylor is chief in charge of the Old Folks' Home, offices at 608 North Second Street, Richmond, Va.

Rev. W. L. Taylor, G. W. M. W. P. Burrell, G. W. S.  
604-6-8 N. Second Street, Richmond, Va.